

# St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



**Mission Statement—St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.**

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**Term 2 Week 10**

**26th June 2012**

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

## Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

Here we are in Week Ten and what a busy term it has been .

The end of this term is one that is especially poignant as it is the last newsletter that will come out with Mrs Simmons on the staff. Anne Simmons has worked at St Mary's School for 26 years, 24 of them consecutively, in these times of people changing their job every few years this is an amazing example of loyalty.

Loyalty is how we will best remember Mrs Simmons' time at St Mary's, loyalty not just to a person but loyalty to an institution and a concept. Over her 36 years of teaching Mrs Simmons has seen many changes in education, changes in teaching techniques, changes in the resources used, massive changes in the resources used, and massive changes in how schools and education is administered and in how teachers are trained. But despite all this, the compass she has used, and it is a challenge to all educators, is to ask the question: what is best for the children?

If we use this compass our children will receive the education that they deserve.

So as we say goodbye to Mrs Simmons from St Mary's School we wish her well in her retirement. I know that she plans to travel around visiting her grandchildren and I hope she will still find time to come and spend time with her friends at St Mary's.

We are holding a Mass on Friday 1.30pm to farewell Mrs Simmons and you are all co-cordially invited -see attached notice.

Have a happy and safe holiday

Mike Brosnahan



**Thank you for your generous donations from the R7 Young Vinnies, who organised the Whacky Mufti Day for the Taieri Food Bank Appeal.**



**Our Vision :** Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

**Dates for June**

27th Prepared Speeches Yrs 6-8, 7pm Hall.  
29th 1.30pm Farewell Mass for  
Anne Simmons  
-End Of Term2.

**Term 3 begins 16th July.**

17th — Rm 7 Sports Exchange trip to Oamaru  
25th BOT Meeting 7.30pm

**Mrs Simmons' Farewell Mass—This Friday**

Mrs Simmons' farewell Mass is being held at 1.30pm on Friday.  
The children will all attend with their classes and at the conclusion of the Mass be escorted back to school where they will be dismissed, at the normal time 3pm.

**End of Term—Thanks**

As the term draws to an end I would like to thank all of the people who have made it so successful, thank you to the teachers for their ongoing hard work and support.  
Thank you to the Board of Trustees for their firm and considered governance of the school.  
Thank you to the PTA for the great job that they have done in raising funds to help our pupils learn but also for drawing the community closer in a positive and caring manner.  
Thank you to the parents who have helped out by accompanying classes on outings and by helping in classrooms, and with sports.  
The involvement that you have in your children's lives is what makes St Mary's such a successful school.  
-Mike Brosnahan

**South Taieri Schools Public Speaking Competition**

Tomorrow night in the Hall at 7pm St Mary's will host Outram school in the annual public speaking competition.  
Selected pupils from three year levels –Years 6, 7 & 8 take part and the format is that the pupils will be presenting persuasive speeches (arguments).  
All pupils and parents are welcome to come along and support the speakers.

**PTA News ....**

Last Tuesday our Quiz Night at the Mosgiel RSA Community Club was a great success raising \$945. Thank you to all that supported this event by either coming along as a team or helping sell raffles on the night

The PTA would like to thank the following sponsors who donated prizes for the evening:

Mosgiel \$2 and Gifts  
Unichem Central Pharmacy  
Paul Anderton - LJ Hooker  
Silver Fern Farms  
Metro Realty  
Agora Butchery  
Taieri Amcal Pharmacy  
ASB Bank  
Jack's Mitre 10  
Living Corporation  
The Dodson Family  
The Chisholm-Reynolds Family

**What a wonderful term we have had! All thanks to you wonderful parents and school community!**

The **cheese rolls** were a success and we made \$2800. We couldn't have done this without all your support in selling, making and delivering.

The **quiz night** was a fun night with many prizes donated by generous parents and community businesses. Thank you to parents and staff that got teams together. We raised \$945.

The **entertainment books** was also very successful and has raised \$1045. Thank you to everyone for selling so many of these this year. -We still have a few more available at the school office, \$55 each.

**So far this term we have raised \$4790 for our school.**

**Once again thank you for all your support.**

For Term Three the energetic and efficient working PTA is holding a school disco and sausage sizzles. We will also be getting ready for the School Fair on the 28th October.

**-Jacquie Dodson  
President**

**A thought for the week...**

"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it -Aristotle



## The School Cross Country was held last Friday





## Taieri Music Festival



### **Invitation To the St Mary's School Parents and Community**



We would cordially like to invite you to attend  
A Mass to  
Acknowledge the Retirement  
Of Mrs Anne Simmons  
From teaching at  
St Mary's School Mosgiel  
On the 29<sup>th</sup> June, 1.30pm  
At Bishop Verdon Chapel  
Holy Cross College  
Mosgiel  
To be followed by  
An afternoon tea

## e-learning snapshot 10 – what is e-learning?

I have been involved in a number of interesting discussions over the past week about e-learning. What is the e in e-learning and should there even be an e? Should it all just be learning? I think of the **e** as a number of things – enabling, engaging, enriching, empowering, encouraging, embracing... Much of what we think of as e-learning happens on a computer or online but it also includes learning with photography, audio, video, researching, discovering - learning.

As the holidays approach this is a wonderful time to reflect on the nature of ubiquitous learning – that is 'learning that happens anywhere, anyhow, anytime.' How can you and your learner make the most of these opportunities? Can you keep a diary? Can you read and write a book review? Can you comment on blog posts? Can you take photos and use fotobabble to talk a story onto the photo? Can you learn about the build up to the Olympics? Can you have fun with photos online? Can you paint or draw on a canvas or online?

I am attaching a number of fun sites for you to visit and explore over the holidays...

Fotobabble - <http://www.fotobabble.com/>

Read, write, think <http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/>

Khan academy <http://www.khanacademy.org/> Featured on 60 Minutes last week

ABCya <http://www.abcya.com/>

Play kids games <http://www.playkidsgames.com/>

Have a great holiday! Anne Kenneally

## EXCLUSIVE EDUCATION EVENING

### FOR PARENTS + TEACHERS

IN THE MOSGIEL / EAST TAIERI DISTRICT

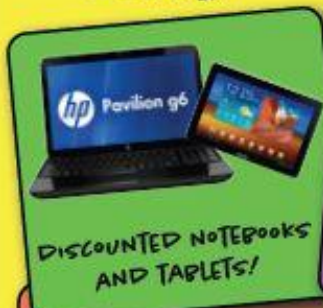
## WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE

6.30 PM - 8.30 PM ONLY!

APPLE EXPERTS  
IN STORE!

SPOT PRIZES  
ON THE NIGHT!

REFRESHMENTS  
PROVIDED!



HAVING TECHNICAL  
ISSUES @ HOME?

BRING IN ANY I.T. EQUIPMENT TO ONE OF  
OUR TECHNICIANS ON THE NIGHT, FOR  
ADVICE AND A FREE DIAGNOSIS

INTEREST FREE  
TERMS AVAILABLE!

## BOND + BOND DUNEDIN

### 254 GEORGE STREET

NEED MORE INFO?

[bbdudnm@bondandbond.co.nz](mailto:bbdudnm@bondandbond.co.nz)

**BOND+BOND**  
YOU WANT IT, WE'VE GOT IT, LET'S TALK.